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E. P. THOMPSON.

Oct. 4-1901









REPORTS

OF THE

AUDITORS

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF GILMANTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING FEB. 27, 1862.

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CONCORD:  
FOGG, HADLEY & COMPANY, PRINTERS,  
1862.





## AUDITORS' REPORT.

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WE have examined the accounts, orders and vouchers presented to us by the Selectmen and Town Treasurer, and find the following to be the result:

We find the Treasurer has paid the following sums by order of the Selectmen:

*Paid outstanding orders issued prior to February 25, 1861.*

Paid as follows:

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| John W. Page, for services of auditors,               | \$6 00  |
| E. M. Gilman, two orders,                             | 1000 00 |
| E. M. Gilman, interest on two orders                  | 140 09  |
| Horace Edgerly, for town order,                       | 125 00  |
| “ “ for interest on orders,                           | 9 51    |
| J. T. Jewell, for town order,                         | 175 00  |
| “ “ “ for interest on order,                          | 50      |
| H. E. Marsh, for services as Selectman,               | 74 75   |
| Isaac B. Sanborn, for town order,                     | 53 00   |
| Gilmanton Academy, for old town order,                | 100 00  |
| “ “ for interest on order,                            | 3 50    |
| Moses Flanders, abatement of tax,                     | 1 64    |
| H. E. Marsh, for services as selectman, out of town,  | 20 25   |
| E. S. Price, for abatement of taxes,                  | 14 15   |
| Alfred Prescott, for abatement of tax,                | 1 64    |
| E. S. Mudgett, for watering trough,                   | 1 50    |
| C. A. Dockham, for Ann Young,                         | 7 00    |
| B. F. Parsons, for services as Selectman out of town, | 10 50   |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ in town,                                  | 42 50   |
| W. N. Swain, “ “ “ “ out of town,                     | 13 50   |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ in town,                                  | 67 50   |
| <hr/>   |         |
| \$1.867 53  |         |

*Paid orders issued since February, 25, 1861.*

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| L. H. Mudgett, for Levi Hutchinson,                 | 3 38   |
| " " " for C. H. Lougee,                             | 7 45   |
| " " " for labor on road,                            | 1 50   |
| " " " for stationery,                               | 1 62   |
| C. A. Dockham, for Cordelia Lamper,                 | 16 69  |
| C. A. Dockham, for Ann Young,                       | 8 92   |
| Levi Hutchinson, abatement of tax, 1860-1,          | 4 32   |
| E. S. Price, for abatement of taxes,                | 24 73  |
| " " " for collecting constable fees, etc., 1860,    | 25 02  |
| Moses S. Gale, for hired labor on town farm,        | 12 10  |
| John Ham, timber for bridge,                        | 1 57   |
| C. A. Dockham, for books,                           | 1 20   |
| " " " for Betsey Young,                             | 5 40   |
| R. L. French, for widow P. Osgood,                  | 2 50   |
| R. P. J. Tenney, for doctoring widow P. Osgood,     | 2 50   |
| S. Clifford, for Jeremiah Clifford,                 | 6 50   |
| Insurance Company, for assessment,                  | 8 77   |
| For interest on Parsonage Fund,                     | 7 91   |
| State Tax,  | 364 00 |
| L. H. Mudgett, merchandise for Town Farm,           | 30 00  |
| L. H. Mudgett, " " " "                              | 70 00  |
| J. S. Kimball, for bridge plank,                    | 9 07   |
| J. S. Kimball, for watering trough,                 | 3 00   |
| J. W. Howard, labor on road,                        | 3 84   |
| A. Peaslee, for threshing grain,                    | 2 33   |
| G. Parker Lyon, for laws and blank books,           | 6 60   |
| Mathias Weeks, for school-house tax,                | 50 00  |
| H. W. Peaslee, for Betsey Young,                    | 6 00   |
| E. T. Gilman, repairing bridge,                     | 10 00  |
| Fogg, Hadley, & Co., for printing Town Report,      | 24 00  |
| R. J. Varney, for pair steers bought for Town Farm, | 37 00  |
| Charles Dudley, for beef cow, " " " "               | 22 50  |
| Henry Kimball, for labor on road,                   | 5 16   |
| E. S. Price, for abatement of tax,                  | 56     |
| D. O. Williams, for " " "                           | 2 28   |
| Charles Varney, for bridge plank,                   | 8 46   |
| John O. Dow, for guide post,                        | 1 00   |
| Joseph Sanborn, for abatement of tax,               | 22     |
| Dudley Young, for Mrs. Danforth,                    | 30 75  |
| James Cogswell, interest on town order,             | 9 00   |
| Thomas Cogswell, for James Young's family,          | 3 50   |

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| County tax,   | 773 45 |
| Susan P. Page, for abatement of tax,  | 3 05   |
| John K. Woodman, school-house tax,  | 42 37  |
| F. P. Burroughs, for watering trough,   | 3 00   |
| G. H. Potter, for interest on town order,                                       | 21 48  |
| G. Montgomery, doctoring poor off Town Farm,                                    | 20 00  |
| B. F. Parsons, for services in the case of Robinson<br>against Upper Gilmanton, | 9 50   |
| Town of Laconia, for William G. Connor,   | 54 75  |
| E. Merrill, for Betsey Weeks,   | 1 54   |
| H. W. Peaslee, for Betsey Weeks,  | 1 25   |
| L. H. Mudgett, for " "  | 5 24   |
| G. H. Potter, for bridge plank,   | 18 80  |
| E. Colcord, labor on road,  | 80     |
| R. J. Varney, for transient paupers,  | 2 00   |
| J. C. Bean, for watering trough, 1860,  | 3 00   |
| G. Montgomery, for return of births,  | 65     |
| N. Wright, for return of births and deaths,                                     | 1 15   |
| M. S. Gale, for hired labor,  | 8 25   |
| Caroline S. Cogswell, for part of T. Cogswell's old<br>order taken up,          | 50 00  |
| Thomas Cogswell, for interest on order,   | 52 55  |
| C. A. Hatch, for Betsey Young, 1860,  | 8 00   |
| L. H. James, for labor on Town Hall,  | 1 50   |
| J. W. Clough, abatement of taxes for 1860,                                      | 17 78  |
| Stephen Flanders, labor on road, 1860,  | 2 33   |
| C. H. Goodwin, for Baxter family,   | 8 00   |
| J. S. Goodwin, for labor on road,   | 1 00   |
| O. S. & J. P. Roby, tin ware for Town Farm,                                     | 7 17   |
| J. K. Woodman, for school-house tax,  | 12 63  |
| B. F. Parsons, for blank books,   | 3 00   |
| C. H. Goodwin, for Baxter family,   | 8 00   |
| D. T. Parker, doctoring Baxter family,  | 3 50   |
| J. S. Kelley, interest on town order,   | 12 00  |
| H. W. Dudley, for services as School Com. 1860,                                 | 24 00  |
| J. M. Clifford, for Jeremiah Clifford, 1860,                                    | 13 00  |
| S. Young, for Elizabeth Page, 1860,   | 6 50   |
| C. E. Plummer, abatement of taxes, 1858,  | 7 95   |
| C. E. Plummer, abatement of taxes, 1859,  | 6 34   |
| C. A. Hatch, for Betsey Young, 1860,  | 6 00   |
| Daniel Jacobs, for damage to horse, 1860,                                       | 12 42  |
| Dudley Lougee, for labor on road, 1860,   | 4 50   |

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| D. L. Guernsey & Co., for book and blanks,  | 3 37     |
| B. F. Parsons, for services as Selectman, 1860,                                   | 6 50     |
| J. M. Coffin, for difference on steers,   | 4 00     |
| Dudley Lougee, for labor on road,   | 1 50     |
| G. H. Seward, for guide-board and post,   | 2 00     |
| B. F. Parsons, for repairing roads, 1860,   | 3 00     |
| Cyrus Varney, for work on road,   | 4 00     |
| B. F. Parsons, blacksmithing for Town Farm,                                       | 2 60     |
| James Jones, for 1 pair oxen for Town Farm,                                       | 108 00   |
| Jacob Meserve, for board of Selectmen,  | 2 00     |
| L. H. Mudgett, for Betsey Weeks, county pauper,                                   | 15 74    |
| S. Grant, for work on road,   | 3 20     |
| Alvah Foss, collecting taxes and constable fees,<br>1859,                         | 16 63    |
| Alvah Foss, abatement of taxes for 1859,  | 22 08    |
| Isaac S. Morgan, for coffins and boxes, for Sarah<br>Gilman and Frank Hutchinson, | 11 00    |
| L. W. Sanborn, for services as Town Clerk, 1860,                                  | 24 21    |
| “ “ “ notifying jurors,   | 2 50     |
| “ “ “ books and stationery,   | 1 04     |
| E. Canney, for labor on road, 1860,   | 1 00     |
| Dixi C. Page, for labor on road, 1860,  | 5 00     |
| N. Wight, for doctoring poor of the town, for 1860,                               | 75 00    |
| S. L. Greely, goods for town farm, 1860,  | 6 81     |
| R. W. Price, for services as school committee, 1860,                              | 29 63    |
| Wm. H. Adams, labor on road, 1860,  | 2 50     |
| Wm. N. Swain, “ “ “   | 3 50     |
| Rev. Mr. Branley, preaching funeral sermon of<br>S. Gilman,                       | 1 00     |
| H. E. Marsh, for labor on road, 1860,   | 22 00    |
| Sally B. Plummer, for interest on town order,                                     | 18 00    |
| T. Adams, for services as Treasurer for 1860,                                     | 35 00    |
| The several school districts  | 1.201 02 |
| C. A. Dockham, for Mrs. Rogers and family,  | 3 00     |
| Wm. B. Thompson, for family of C. Drew,   | 1 68     |
| Stephen Gale, “ “ “ “   | 98       |
| R. W. Page, “ “ “ “   | 2 37     |
| B. F. Parsons, for support of families of volunteers,                             | 310 00   |
| R. J. Varney, “ “ “ “   | 100 00   |
| Tyler S. Tilton, for services as Selectman in town,                               | 42 00    |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ out town,   | 4 00     |
| Thomas J. Gale, for blacksmithing, town farm,                                     | 6 25     |

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| H. W. Peaslee, for Levi Hutchinson,                            | 4 00       |
| H. W. Moses, for guide post,                                   | 1 00       |
| J. W. Clough, collecting taxes and constable fees<br>for 1860, | 22 35      |
| J. W. Clough, for abatement of taxes, 1860,                    | 13 56      |
| C. S. P. Sanderson, for stationery,                            | 57         |
| “ “ “ Charles Lougee,  | 5 00       |
| “ “ “ goods for town farm,                                     | 11 86      |
| S. & S. H. Dearborn, goods for poor off the town<br>farm,      | 5 30       |
| Stephen Dearborn, goods for town farm, 1860,                   | 8 33       |
| B. F. Parsons, for services as Selectman in town,              | 44 00      |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ out town,  | 20 00      |
| “ “ “ records and expenses out town,                           | 5 60       |
| “ “ “ support of transient paupers,                            | 3 65       |
| “ “ “ blacksmithing for town farm,                             | 5 30       |
| John C. Bean, for watering trough, for 1861,                   | 3 00       |
| R. J. Varney, for services as Selectman in town,               | 45 00      |
| “ “ “ “ “ out of town<br>and expenses,                         | 10 75      |
| R. J. Varney, for postage and examining records,               | 1 08       |
| H. E. Marsh, for making school house tax, 1860,                | 5 00       |
| Wm. N. Swain, for services as Selectman, 1860,                 | 4 00       |
| M. S. Gale, for use of town farm,                              | 22 00      |
| T. J. Gale, wheat for town farm,                               | 5 25       |
|  | <hr/>      |
|  | \$4.428 41 |
| Amount of old orders brought forward,                          | 1.867 53   |
|  | <hr/>      |
|  | \$6.295 94 |

*Thomas Adams, Town Treasurer, in account with the Town of  
Gilmanton, Feb. 27, 1862.*

|   |            |
|---|------------|
|   | DR.        |
| To balance on settlement. Feb. 25, 1861,                                  | \$2.407 46 |
| April 24. To cash of State for R. R. Tax,                                 | 32 12      |
| “ J. M. Coffin,   | 125 00     |
| June 11. To amount of taxes committed to H.<br>P. Gilman, for collection, | 1.493 76   |
| To amount of taxes committed to E.<br>S. Price, for collection,           | 1.713 27   |

|  |  |            |
|--|--|------------|
| To amount of taxes committed to J. Leighton, for collection, |  | 1.933 20   |
| Oct. 4.  | To cash for stock sold from town farm,           | 100 00     |
| 31.  | " " of County of Belknap for paupers,            | 48 06      |
|  | " " for license for circus,                      | 30 00      |
| Nov. 19.   | To H. E. Marsh's note of Jan. 10, 1861,          | 55 00      |
| Dec. 28.   | To cash hired of Mary Eveleth,                   | 100 00     |
| Jan. 4.  | " " of State for literary money, 1862,           | 136 80     |
|  | " " hired of Mrs. Naomi Varney,                  | 100 00     |
| Feb. 5.  | " " " Lawrence Folsom,                           | 100 00     |
| 14.  | " " " James W. Cogswell,                         | 150 00     |
|  | " " " Thomas Cogswell,                           | 100 00     |
|  | " " " Ira Shannon,                               | 100 00     |
| Non-resident tax,  |  | 4 00       |
| Feb. 26.   | To cash of B. F. Parsons, for support of pauper, | 100 00     |
|  | " " rec'd of J. M. Coffin, for interest on note, | 5 31       |
|  |  | <hr/>      |
|  |  | \$8.833 98 |

Cr.

|                |  |            |
|----------------|--|------------|
| Feb. 27, 1862. | By orders taken up, interest paid on orders and money paid the several school districts in town, | \$6.295 94 |
|                | By balance in hands of collector and cash on hand,   | 2.538 04   |
|                |  | <hr/>      |
|                |  | \$8.833 98 |

Settled as above.

THOMAS ADAMS, *Treasurer.*

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| BURLEIGH F. PARSONS, | } <i>Selectmen</i><br><i>of</i><br><i>Gilmanton.</i> |
| TYLER S. TILTON,     |  |
| RICHARD J. VARNEY,   |  |

February 27, 1862. The undersigned have carefully examined the foregoing accounts and find them correctly cast and properly vouched, and a balance due the town of \$2.538 04

|                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| HENRY E. MARSH, | } <i>Auditors.</i> |
| WM. N. SWAIN,   |                    |
| RUFUS E. GALE,  |                    |



*Funds of the Town.*

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Parsonage fund, | \$417 82 |
| Literary fund,  | 136 80   |

We find the town indebted to the funds as follows:

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Parsonage fund, | \$131 96 |
| Literary fund,  | 136 80   |

All of which is respectfully submitted.

|                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| HENRY E. MARSH, | } <i>Auditors.</i> |
| WM. N. SWAIN,   |                    |
| RUFUS E. GALE.  |                    |

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We find the town indebted, Feb. 27, 1862, for outstanding orders, as follows:

|                 |          |                   |                  |
|-----------------|----------|-------------------|------------------|
| F. M. D. Ayers, | \$125 00 | J. W. Cogswell,   | 150 00           |
| D. Hatch,       | 250 00   | T. Cogswell,      | 100 00           |
| B. O. Copp,     | 160 00   | Ira Shannon,      | 100 00           |
| L. G. Lougee,   | 246 90   | A. S. Gale,       | 2 87             |
| J. P. Hill,     | 150 00   | H. W. Peaslee,    | 12 90            |
| J. P. Hill,     | 500 00   | H. W. Peaslee,    | 4 00             |
| J. P. Hill,     | 50 00    | H. E. Marsh,      | 4 00             |
| S. B. Plummer,  | 300 00   | C. E. Plummer,    | 38 50            |
| S. N. Edgerly,  | 4 00     | Ira Shannon,      | 993 95           |
| J. W. Cogswell, | 150 00   | D. Hatch,         | 300 00           |
| T. S. Dudley,   | 509 50   | J. O. Sleeper,    | 80 00            |
| T. Durrell,     | 2 00     | A. S. Tilton,     | 200 00           |
| T. Cogswell,    | 200 00   | A. S. Tilton,     | 150 00           |
| C. S. Cogswell, | 400 00   | G. H. Potter,     | 100 00           |
| C. G. Kelley,   | 3 00     | J. S. Kelley,     | 200 00           |
| M. Eveleth,     | 100 00   | A. Foss, Trustee, | 33 00            |
| A. Mack,        | 94 11    | M. Shepard,       | 55 88            |
| N. M. Varney,   | 100 00   | A. Prescott,      | 50 00            |
| J. L. Kelley,   | 3 82     | J. P. Clough,     | 33 83            |
| L. Folsom,      | 100 00   |                   |                  |
| T. Durrell,     | 1 00     |                   |                  |
|                 |          |                   | <hr/> \$6.058 26 |

|                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| HENRY E. MARSH,   | } <i>Auditors.</i> |
| WILLIAM N. SWAIN, |                    |
| RUFUS E. GALE,    |                    |

|  |            |            |
|--|------------|------------|
| Balance in hands of collectors, and cash on hand,  | \$2.538 04 |            |
| Due from County, for paupers supported on Town Farm,   | 79 00      |            |
| Due from the State for support of the families of volunteers,                                      | 300 00     |            |
| Cash in hands of B. F. Parsons and R. J. Varney, not yet expended, for the families of volunteers, | 110 00     |            |
| Amount of liquors in hands of agents,  | 109 37     |            |
| Due from Upper Gilmanton, on D. A. Paul case,  | 100 00     |            |
|  | <hr/>      | \$3.236 41 |
| Cash in hands of Upper Gilmanton, undivided, - - - - -   | \$40 00.   |            |
| Leaving the Town indebted over means, Feb. 27, 1862, - - - - -                                     |            | \$2,821 85 |

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*Report on Town Farm.*

The undersigned, Selectmen of Gilmanton, report that the Town has paid out of the Treasury for the use of the Town Farm, during the year commencing Feb. 16, 1861—

|  |        |          |
|--|--------|----------|
| For hired labor,   | 20 35  |          |
| stock,   | 233 00 |          |
| store bills,   | 111 86 |          |
| physicians,  | 25 00  |          |
| blacksmiths,   | 8 86   |          |
| services of overseers,   | 225 00 |          |
| beef cow,  | 22 50  |          |
|  | <hr/>  | \$646 57 |
| Received for stock sold,   | 309 00 |          |
| Received from County for sup. of paupers,                                    | 48 00  |          |
| Due from County for support of paupers,                                      | 79 00  | 436 00   |
|  |        | <hr/>    |
| Making the whole paid out above receipts,                                    |        | \$210 57 |
| The amount of property as appraised Feb. 14, 1862, falls short of last year, |        | 45 61    |
|  |        | <hr/>    |
| Making the expenses over the income,   |        | \$256 18 |



*Schedule of Property on Town Farm, as appraised by the Selectmen, Feb. 14th, 1862.*

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| 4 oxen,                                      | 225 00 |
| 1 pair three-year-old steers,                | 60 00  |
| 6 cows,                                      | 162 00 |
| 1 three-year-old heifer,                     | 25 00  |
| 4 two-years-old heifers,                     | 60 00  |
| 2 one-year-old, 20; 3 shoats, 33;            | 53 00  |
| 18 tons English hay,                         | 234 00 |
| 6 tons low ground hay,                       | 54 00  |
| 2 tons straw,                                | 8 00   |
| 10 bu. of wheat, 15; 50 bu. of corn, 50;     | 65 00  |
| 20 bu. of oats, 9; 17 bu. of barley, 15;     | 24 00  |
| 8 bush of beans, 16. 2 bush. of peas, 2.     | 18 00  |
| 52 lbs. of lard, 6 50; 60 lbs. tallow, 6.00; | 12.50  |
| 23 lbs. dried apple,                         | 1 84   |
| 20 lbs. butter, and 80 lbs. cheese,          | 12 00  |
| 275 bushels of potatoes,                     | 68 74  |
| 60 bushels of carrots,                       | 15 00  |
| 9 bu. of turnips, 2 25; 3 bu. beets, 1 00;   | 3 25   |
| 650 lbs. pork, 81 25; 650 lbs. beef, 39;     | 120 25 |
| 2 barrels of vinegar,                        | 8 00   |
| 1 barrel of soap,                            | 3 00   |
| 3/4 of a barrel of pickles,                  | 4 00   |

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Whole amounting to \$1.236 59

|                      |   |  |
|----------------------|---|--|
| TYLER S. TILTON,     | } | <i>Selectmen<br/>of<br/>Gilmanton.</i> |
| BURLEIGH F. PARSONS, |   |  |
| RICHARD J. VARNEY,   |   |  |

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*List of names and ages of Paupers on Farm Feb. 14, 1862.*

|                      |    |                      |    |
|----------------------|----|----------------------|----|
| Thomas Elkins, aged  | 76 | Eliza Thompson, aged | 52 |
| Dudley J. Weeks,     | 74 | Mehitable Elkins,    | 71 |
| Charles Bean,        | 67 | Polly Morrill,       | 74 |
| Alvah F. Willey,     | 12 | Mercy Elkins,        | 49 |
| Cynthia B. Pulsifer, | 6  | Lydia Avery,         | 78 |
| Lois Thompson        | 82 |                      |    |



## Report of the Superintending School Committee, FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR, 1861—62.

The prosperity of our public schools is so intimately connected with the prosperity of all other institutions affecting society, that it invests them at once with a degree of importance seldom if ever over-estimated.

In submitting a detailed report of the condition and progress made in our schools during the year just now closed, your superintendent feels an utter inability to fully meet all the difficulties which attach to this subject, and at the same time to meet the variously conflicting opinions and prejudices held by the people who are directly affected and interested in whatever relates to our system of public instruction.

But however regarded, in whatever light viewed, the subject is one of fundamental and vital importance to the entire community in all its relations, near or remote.

True intelligence, education in its best sense, is the source of influence and power, and always commands respect; and the present age demands it; every interest, public or private, social or political, secular or religious, national or instrumental, imperatively demands at our hands, the carrying out of the best system of instruction the world has ever seen, *our New England common school system.*

Now what it demanded is a strong and healthy public sentiment on this subject. The public must be willing to do what is obviously necessary to give efficiency to its own instructions. Will any object to these conclusions? The care exercised in this cause, by a large majority, is too distant and indirect, being sheer compulsion at the hands of the law; instead of which, a warm, uniting cordiality, a heart-felt union and anxious co-operation should be exercised by every parent, guardian and tax-payer. During the past year, a minority of our schools have done all the most sanguine could expect,—some have done *moderately* well, while others have been of little worth or account. What are the causes of this disparity while the same means and facilities are afforded to all? It so happens that in our very best schools we have found our very best teachers, and a hearty co-operation on the part of parents. These never have and they never will fail to inspire proper interest in those taught; but if either of these be wanting, the good lost to a school is by far the greater part. But how great must be the loss when parents, to gratify prejudice, combine against the teacher, and countenance such combination in their children.

## DISTRICT No. 1.

*First Term*, Miss Ellen M. Perkins, teacher. Length, 9 weeks; whole numbers of scholars, 28; average attendance, 22.

Miss Perkins' literary attainments are excellent. When visited, the school was orderly, and at the close, the few present showed very commendable advancement; proving that the teacher labored faithfully in the discharge of his arduous duties. One class in grammar showed excellent proficiency.

*Winter Term*, Phineas H. Wheeler of Barnstead, teacher. Length of this school was designed to be 7 weeks, but owing to the spread of measles, among the scholars, the school did not continue its full time, closing without giving the Committee information of it, consequently we are unable to say just what progress was made in this school. Mr. W. appeared finely when examined for recommendation, and we should readily infer that he professes the requisites of a good common school teacher. When the school was visited by us, it was evident that the teacher was laboring hard to promote the best interests of the school, but it was also apparent that there was an under current, greatly paralyzing his efforts. The order of the school was not healthy, would admit of much improvement, and the prospect for success not flattering.

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## DISTRICT No. 2.

*Summer Term*, Nellie S. Blake of Pittsfield, teacher. Length of school, 8 weeks; whole number of scholars, 24; average attendance, 18.

This school made good progress, as was clearly shown at the closing examination. There were some fine scholars at the close of this school. Everything about the school bore marks of neatness, promptitude and *good order*.

Miss B. possesses in a good degree the right qualifications for a successful teacher.

*Second Term*, Edward F. Berry of Alton, teacher; length of school, 7 1-2 weeks; number of scholars, 23; average attendance, 18.

There was not all that energy and lively interest manifest in this school that the cause demands. A great want of thoroughness was too obvious at the closing examination. The order of the school was good during both visits of the Committee. A little more energy and heart-felt interest are necessary to constitute a first-rate teacher, and this depends mainly upon the *purpose* of the teacher himself.

## DISTRICT No. 3.

*First Term*, Nellie F. Card of Alton, teacher. Length of school, 7 weeks ; whole number of different scholars, 13 ; average, 11. Mrs. Card is an ambitious and successful teacher, knowing when and how to perform the varied duties of the school-room. Of nearly three hundred questions promiscuously asked by the Committee at the closing examination, wrong answers were given to only two, which proved conclusively enough that there had been no superficial work, or a mere whiling away of precious time. The order of the school was excellent, and the scholars felt a deep interest as shown by the register ; only 9 tardy marks during the whole term, and nearly a constant attendance.

*Second Term*, School Commissioner for Belknap County, teacher. It might seem almost superfluous to add that this was an excellent school, nay, a *model* school, as we had reason to expect from the well earned reputation of the teacher, who, by the way, is a *live man*, and knows his whole duty and has a disposition and courage to perform it. No school with such a teacher can prove a failure.

The whole school made great proficiency in reading, but the first-class gave us specimens of reading that would have done credit to men of letters. In geography, arithmetic, algebra and latin, the classes appeared to understand the *principles* as well as the *rules*. The exceptions were few. Length of school, 7 weeks. Whole number of scholars, 25 ; average attendance, 20.

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DISTRICT No. 4.

*Term*, 12 weeks ; Nat W. Woodes of Barnstead, teacher ; whole number of scholars, 25 ; average, 15. If a teacher would govern his school with becoming dignity, he must in the first place be *sure* to govern himself. Mr. W. is quite young in teaching, and with more experience will doubtless become an efficient teacher. At the end of eight weeks, Mr. W. left this school, beginning another in an adjoining town. The last four weeks of this school was kept by Miss A. W. Woodes, who is quite an interesting teacher. Though this school had no distinguishing features, still the advancement was tolerable. The school-house in this district is rather uninviting, being old and badly disfigured. The school-house is not unfrequently a true index to the interest felt by a district in the cause of education.

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DISTRICT No. 5.

*Summer Term*, taught by Mary E. Dudley. The uniform kindness and good will of the teacher could hardly fail to secure intuitively the respect and reverence of the

entire school. The distinguishing feature of this school was a steady, healthy, onward progress in all its studies. The school is well disposed, almost without an exception. The teacher labored with an *honest interest* for the welfare of the school. At the close, everything showed marks of neatness, promptness, and the best of order. Number 22, average, 21

*Winter Term*, Geo. M. Dudley, teacher. With Mr. D. there was no indifference as to the success and prosperity of his school, for it was evident to all that he labored assiduously to promote the whole interest intrusted to him. When visited, the order was unexceptionable, and the closing examination showed that the labors of both scholars and teacher had resulted in the real advancement of the school. In this school there was one of the finest grammar classes in the town; and also a class in Greenleaf's Intellectual Arithmetic did itself great credit,—and in fact, all the closing exercises were quite satisfactory.

#### DISTRICT No. 6.

Miss Nellie Smith, teacher. This school, compared with many in the town, is backward,—yet under Miss Smith's instruction it made commendable improvement. Miss S. is an excellent scholar, and possesses the right natural qualifications for a highly efficient teacher. Length of school, 9 weeks; number, 18; average, 13.

*Winter Term*, Mr. James W. Cogswell, teacher. Mr. Cogswell has had considerable experience as a teacher, and may therefore be expected to be successful; he comes also highly recommended by former Committees of this and other towns, as well qualified for the trying and arduous duties of his post.

The order in Mr. C.'s school was good, and in reading, the enunciation was fair.

Mr. C. labored under the embarrassment of having a very poor and dilapidated school-house, which, according to his own suggestion in his register, we earnestly hope, will be removed, and a new and beautiful one take its place. Length of school, 8 weeks; number, 22; average, 18.

#### DISTRICT No. 7.

*Term*, 12 weeks, Abbie D. Winkley, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 11; average, 7.

When visited by your Committee, the school appeared well, though not very far advanced. Mutual love and good will seemed to characterize the school, a good foundation for success; and the school was as successful as the circumstances would warrant.



## DISTRICT No. 8.

*Term*, 11 1-2 weeks. Daniel W. Weeks, of Sandwich, teacher. This was Mr. W.'s first attempt at teaching, and like most beginners, he has yet to learn the more difficult parts of successful teaching. He exhibited, however, an honest desire to do all in his power for the success of his school. At the closing examination, there was not apparent, that thorough advancement which so long a term should have produced.

## DISTRICT No. 9.

*First Term*, Martha Ann Gilman, teacher. This is the largest school, and consequently the most responsible position for a teacher, in town. Where so much is at stake, as the rightful instruction of sixty immortal minds, too much caution cannot be exercised in selecting a teacher. Though the task of this teacher was hard, yet she performed it with much credit to herself and the general satisfaction of the district. Many of the classes appeared finely at the close of the school, which was witnessed by a large number of the citizens of the district, thereby adding very much to the interest of the occasion. Singing was a daily exercise. At the close, we were treated to a rare lot of compositions, declamations, and dialogues. The order of the school was very commendable. Number, 60 ; average, 42 ; length, 16 weeks.

*Second Term*, Joseph N. Sanborn, teacher. Length, 11 1-2 weeks ; number, 43 ; average, 32.

When this school was visited by your Committee, the teacher was laboring hard to bring up an interest in the school, but with what success your Committee cannot state, for in consequence of severe sickness, he was unable to attend the closing examination. Mr. S. has had some experience in teaching, and it is hoped that the money was wisely expended.

## DISTRICT No. 10.

*Term*, 14 weeks ; Carrie W. Clay, teacher. Though this is one of the smallest schools in town, yet under Miss Clay's management, it is among the most interesting we have ever visited. As a teacher, Miss Clay certainly excels. Combining decision of character, and an active energy, with a mild and cheerful manner, she restrained and governed her school with "love and good will ;" gained the affections of her scholars and the confidence of their parents. This school was distinguished for promptness and regularity of attendance, as well as for the most perfect order.

The fidelity of the teacher was well evinced by the marked improvement seen at the closing exhibition, for there was not a failure in anything pertaining to the school. Such a teacher will need no

monument, though she may richly merit one. At the close we were pleased with the singing, composition, and declamation, and also with a great company of visitors. Number, 14; average, 10.

#### DISTRICT No. 11.

*First Term*, Anna C. Sanborn, teacher. This district takes a deep interest in the cause of education, which gives a teacher much encouragement to labor diligently and earnestly for the highest success. Miss Sanborn possessed a mild and amiable disposition, and made commendable efforts for the improvement of her school. As a general thing, the order of the school was good, and in reading there was good proficiency. A class in Colburn's Arithmetic did much credit to itself, and there were also good declamations. Length, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 18; average, 16.

*Second Term*, Laura A. Gale, teacher. Miss Gale is too well known in this town, as a teacher, to need any of our commendation, however much she may merit it. But suffice it to say, it is not easy to find Miss G.'s superior in *teaching*, or in *discipline*. At the closing examination the appearance of the school was excellent. In reading, the whole school made rapid improvement, and also in arithmetic and grammar. A class in Greenleaf's Intellectual Arithmetic, could not well have a superior. Algebra was successfully taught in this school. Length of school, 7 weeks; number of scholars, 23; average, 20.

#### DISTRICT No. 12.

*First Term*, Addie M. Durrell, teacher. This was the first attempt of Miss D. at teaching, and considering all the circumstances of inexperience and of beginning in her own district, we think her success very commendable. There was no lack of a disposition to do every duty. The order of the school when visited was very fair. Length, 11 weeks; number of scholars, 25.

*Second Term*, G. Perkins Sylvester, teacher. Mr. S. as a scholar is abundantly qualified to teach. On visiting his school near its beginning, the prospect was fair, all that could reasonably be expected,—but in the very midst of the term, the district had the fortune to have their school-house consumed by fire, which brought the school suddenly to a close. Hence we are unprepared to make further report. Length, 6 1-2 weeks; number of scholars, 15; average, 12. It is earnestly hoped that when this district re-builds, it will present us a *model* house.



## DISTRICT No. 13.

*First Term*, Laurie E. Shepard of Concord, teacher. Length of school, 8 weeks; number of scholars, 23. Miss Shepard is an active and interesting teacher, well qualified as to scholarship. The school under her instruction in some branches made unusual progress. One class in particular, in reading, and one in mental arithmetic, excelled. The discipline of the school was excellent.

*Second Term*, Susie A. Smith, teacher. Length, 7 weeks. Number of scholars, 24; average, 20.

Miss S. has had much experience in teaching, and therefore much, very much was expected of her. Miss S. in government is mild and gentle, using moral suasion, rather than harsher measures. In this school she labored diligently for its success, nor did she labor in vain, as the closing examination conclusively proved, for most of the classes were prompt and accurate.

## DISTRICT No. 14.

The *First* and *Second* Terms of this school, of 8 and 9 weeks, were kept by Miss Annie M. Rollins, who labored hard for the welfare and advancement of her pupils. At the close of the first term, the advancement was very respectable, and we felt that the teacher had been verily faithful. But during the second term there was a manifest want of union in this district in respect to the teacher, the tendency of which was to cripple the energies of the whole school. The order of the school was good, and we consider it a very amiable school.

## DISTRICT No. 15.

*First Term*, Nancie S. Nutter, of Barnstead, teacher. Length, 8 weeks. Number of scholars, 24. This school, after keeping four weeks, closed for seven weeks, in consequence of sickness in the district: it then began and kept four weeks. This interruption was unfavorable to the success of the school. Miss Nutter's abilities as a teacher are superior, combining diligence, decision, fortitude and mildness, together with a native talent to make others see and know clearly what she wishes them to know.

At the close of the school the number of scholars was small, but they made an excellent appearance, answering promptly and correctly.

The *Second Term* of 4 weeks was kept by George W. Adams, jr. Though this school was short, yet under the labors of Mr. Adams, the advancement was truly commendable. A class in Colburn's Arithmetic merited much praise, as did also other classes in arithmetic and grammar. Number of scholars, 24. Average, 22.

## DISTRICT No. 16.

*First Term*, Laura A. Gale, teacher. Length, 8 weeks ; number of scholars, 18, average 16. In this school, Miss Gale maintained her well-earned reputation as a teacher. One of the greatest excellencies in her teaching is the thoroughness of her elementary instructions ; for one lesson thoroughly understood, is of more practical value to the pupil than a dozen lessons, however well-committed, which are not understood. The closing examination was highly interesting and satisfactory. One class in Greenleaf's National Arithmetic surpassed anything of the kind we ever saw.

*Second Term*, Daniel H. Rowe, of Gilford, teacher. Mr Rowe, as a teacher, is precise and methodical in all his movements, with but few deviations. His influence in school is highly salutary, morally and socially. There is a kind of infallible accuracy about his teaching, so that when a thing is done, it is done, and needs not be done differently. He shows an *honest* interest in the success and welfare of his scholars, which is the strongest and highest interest one can show, and it cannot easily be counterfeited. Mr. Rowe's school made a good, healthy advancement, not apparent only, but real.

At the close there was no attempt at mere show, but the different classes, like their teacher, went deliberately to work, and made a praiseworthy appearance. A large number of visitors were present at the close. Here, too is one of the finest school-houses in town.

## DISTRICT No. 17.

Both terms, Amanda A. Hadley teacher. Here is a fine school-house, and a district second to none in town in point of interest in the cause of education—a faithful, competent teacher, and a *very interesting school*. It is truly interesting, and a pleasure to visit this school. In this school there is very little tardiness or irregularity in attendance, and it was truly pleasing to see men and women seventy, and seventy-five years of age, attend the closing examination. No register returns so great a number of visitors as this. It is superfluous for us to add that the advancement of this school was all the most hopeful could expect.

## DISTRICT No. 18.

*First Term*, Helen M. Stanton, of Strafford, teacher. This is the largest school in town save one, therefore great wisdom and care should be exercised in the selection of teachers, for it involves the loss of too much money and precious time to employ a worthless teacher. Miss Stanton is a lady of mild and unobtrusive dis-

position, and, perhaps, in many situations might succeed well as a teacher, but it is too evident that she was inadequate to the task of governing and suitably instructing this school; consequently the advancement was ordinary. Length, 12 weeks. Number of scholars, 51.

*Second Term*, Frank S. French, teacher. The high and justly earned fame of Mr. French as a successful teacher is too well established and far-spread to be affected by any remarks of ours. In this district Mr. F. was reared, and is familiar to every child in the village, and we commend the wisdom of selecting him as teacher; for we would say, never pay a high price for foreign imports while we have in abundance a highly superior commodity of home manufacture. This school was highly successful in all the branches taught. The extra studies were history, algebra and geometry. Length of school, 12 weeks. Number, 55. Average 40.

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## GENERAL REMARKS.

In order to have a good school, the united co-operation of Superintending and Prudential Committees, teachers, parents and scholars is absolutely necessary. We have divided what we consider some of the different duties of each into so many heads of remarks.

*Superintending Committees* should be men qualified by education, by practical experience as teachers of youth, and by their knowledge of human nature, to fill so important an office. They should thoroughly understand their duties, and execute them faithfully, rigidly and exactly, never permitting their sympathies or prejudices to interfere in the faithful discharge of such duties. If a teacher, after having received a certificate, proves unfit to manage his school, they should not hesitate to remove him promptly, according to the provision of the law. If a scholar persists in disobeying the regulations of the school, they should fearlessly expel him upon proof of his habitual disobedience, when properly requested so to do. It is better that *one* should lose the benefit of a school than that *he* should be the cause of such loss to a large number of scholars who are well disposed.

2. *Prudential Committees*. Their office is an important one; no man should be elected to it who does not take an active interest in the prosperity of the school in his district, or considers the performance of his duties burdensome. The practice of "taking turns," as it is termed, may safely be abandoned in this instance.

When a man accepts the office, if he does not already know his duties, he should immediately inform himself in relation to them. This he can easily do, as a Digest of all the laws of the State, in relation to school matters is in the possession of every district. If this matter should be attended to a little more carefully, no teacher would be allowed to commence a school, and keep it half through the term without a certificate of his qualifications according to law, while the Superintending Committee are not aware such a person is in existence; nor would a school be commenced or closed without the knowledge of said Committee. A Prudential Committee in the election of teachers should make himself acquainted with the acquirements and character of the person he employs; nor should he ever select one solely on account of relationship, or personal favoritism.

He should not uselessly squander the money of the district by paying extravagant prices to ordinary teachers, and should avoid the other extreme, a parsimonious economy by hiring a poor one, because he can hire him "cheap;" for every thing is dear at any price, which does not answer the purpose for which it was intended.

3. *Parents*, should not indulge the idea that when they have erected a good school-house, provided a teacher, well supplied their children with suitable books, comfortable clothing, and see them punctually at school, that their responsibilities are ended. They should cultivate an acquaintance, and a good understanding with the teacher. If children see their parents treat any person with coldness, neglect or disrespect—they are very sure to do the same. This is especially true in regard to teachers.

On the other hand, those whom their parents treat with respect, kindness and true warm heartedness, will be so regarded by children. This is emphatically true in regard to teachers. In their enquiries of their children concerning their school, parents should be very guarded in the *manner* they make those inquiries. The child will readily discover by the manner a question is put to him by his parent, whether a *favorable* or *unfavorable* answer is desired in regard to his teacher, and will answer accordingly. In order that a school should prosper, no small part of the work must be done at home. Parents who think their children have made but little progress at school should bear this in mind. We are almost constrained to say that half of the government, if not the instruction of the school must be done at home. That if nothing is done at home to support the teacher, his labor is doubled. The parent must exhibit an interest in his child's pursuits, and let him see that interest. Children are to often sent to school "to get them out of the way." There can be no good school in a community where this is a prevalent motto. The heart of the parent should go with the child to the school-room. He is not a plague to be got rid of so many hours in a day.

No parent should ever let it be optional with the *child* whether he shall attend school or not ! The parent or guardian, in this respect, should have absolute control, and should *exercise* this control ! No parent, for a single hour, (and I had almost said no *parent* will,) should suffer a child to forsake his school because he has merited and received chastisement, and if he has left, correct him with the *rod* or *counsel*, or both, and return him to the school ! The parent that does not do this, teaches the child *lessons of misrule* and *insubordination* which in a large majority of cases, prove the ruin of the child, and too often brings down the *hoary head* with sorrow to the grave.

Look at some of our closing examinations ! where there should be *thirty-five*, we see *nineteen* scholars ! and where there should be *twenty-five* we see fifteen scholars ! Why is this ? this crawling out, this *mean* withdrawal on the last day of the school ? Is it because there is no *parental* power behind the throne ? Or is it not because that power connives at misrule ? May there be a *speedy* and *thorough* reform.

To *parents*, then, we would say, throw aside every personal prejudice, local feeling and private bickering in all matters so far as your schools are concerned, if you cannot avoid them elsewhere. The improvement of your schools should be a platform wide enough, long enough, and strong enough for you all to stand upon and unitedly exert all your energies.

4. *Scholars*. To such as can understand us of this class, we would say, be kind, be docile, be obedient, be studious and persevering. Reflect that all the season of youth, all your schooling, studies and attainments, are but the preparation for the arduous examinations, the conspicuous exhibitions, the strenuous contests of life. As you pass your time and improve your opportunities in school, so will your success be in great probability, in a majority of cases in after life. Says an eminent writer. "If the spring puts forth no blossoms, summer will display but little beauty, and autumn afford no fruit ; so if youth be wasted without improvement, manhood will be contemptible, and old age miserable." If the golden hours of youth are thrown away, you throw away the best hope of usefulness and prosperity in the world, and perhaps the best promise of human happiness hereafter.

JOHN M. DURGIN,

*Superintending School Committee.*













